

# Drag Calculation Coupling with Clustering Phenomenon for Gas-solid Circulating Fluidized Bed Risers

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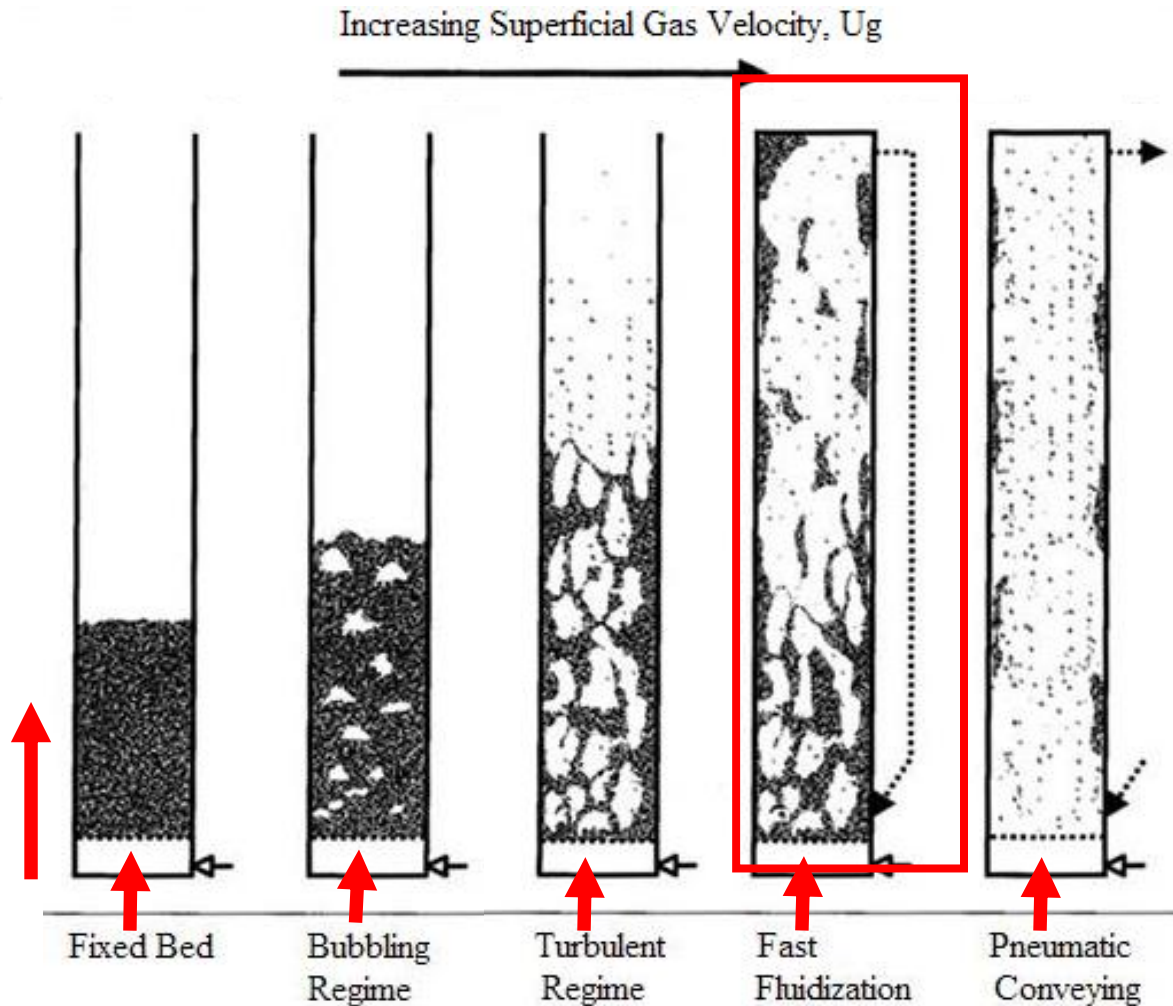
2019 NETL Workshop on  
Multiphase Flow Science



# Outline

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. CFD model descriptions**
- 3. The concept of cluster-driven drag calculation**
- 4. Configuration of the CFB riser**
- 5. Results of hydrodynamic simulations**
- 6. Conclusions**

# Various Gas–Solid Fluidized Beds



Fast fluidization provides

1. enhanced heat and mass transfer
2. independent control of gas and particles
3. high productivity

*Escudero, David Roberto, "Bed height and material density effects on fluidized bed hydrodynamics" (2010). Graduate Theses and Dissertations. 11656.*

# Applications



FCC



Coal and biomass Gasification



Calcination

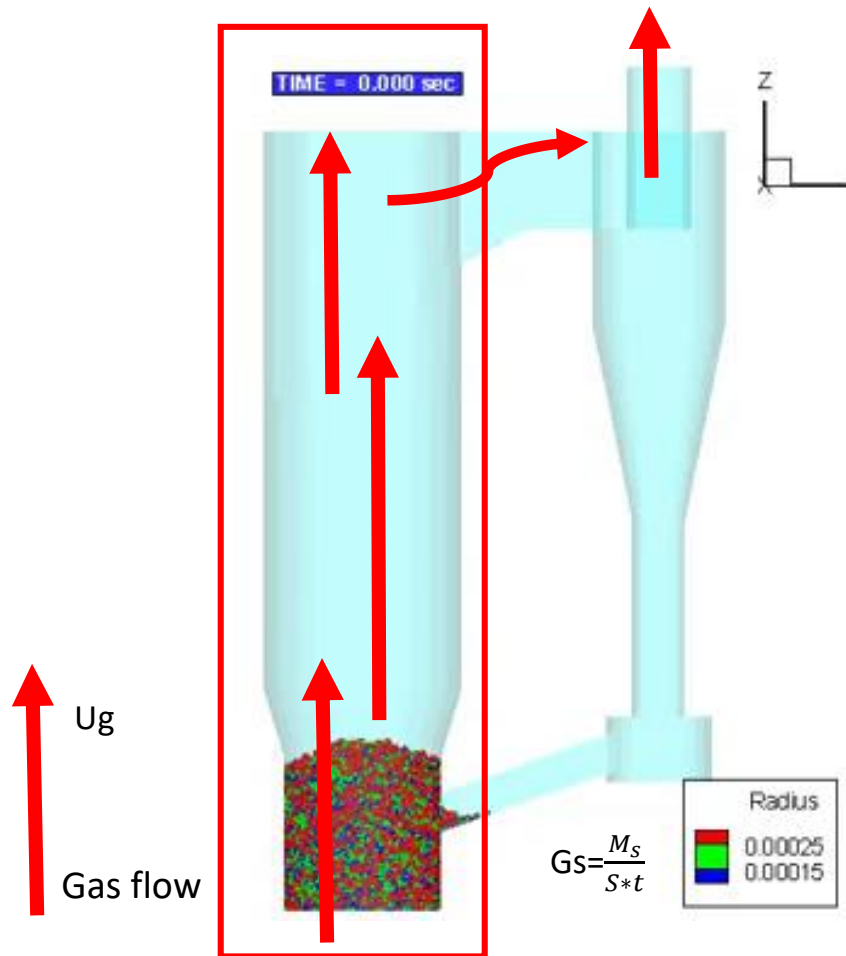


Coal and biomass Combustion



Gas absorption

# CFB apparatus



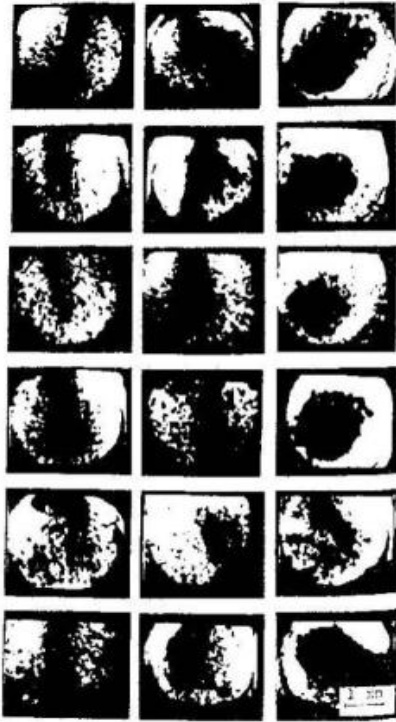
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EB0r6A5VxFU>

## Reactions:

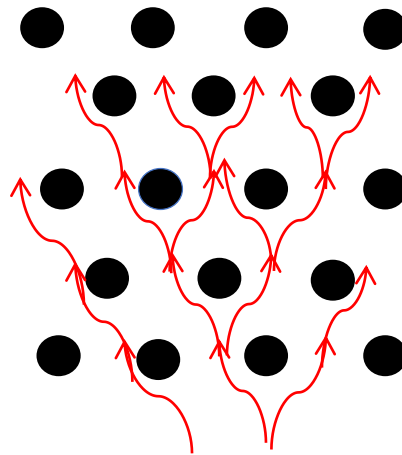
- Gas-reactant  
Particles-catalyst  
FCC
- Gas-reactant A  
Particles-reactant B  
*Gasification, Combustion*

The gas-particle interaction is crucial for the reactor performance.

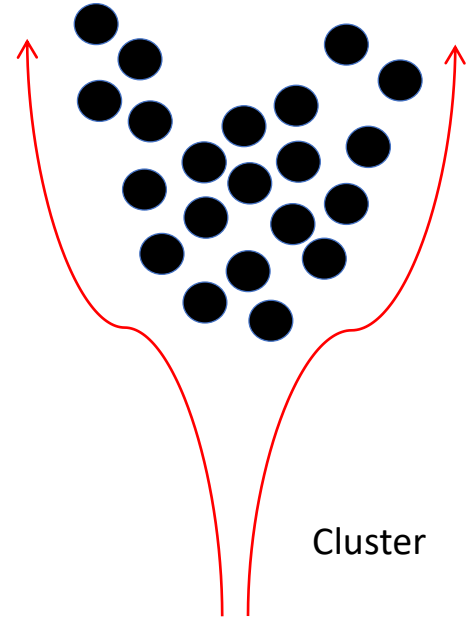
# Gas-particle interaction



*Li, H., Xia, Y., Tung, Y., & Kwauk, M. (1991).  
Micro-visualization of clusters in a fast  
fluidized bed. Powder Technology, 66(3), 231-  
235..*



Individual particles



Cluster

Clusters influence **the gas-particle interaction** in the particle level.

Heat and mass transfer, back mixing, residence time....

# Drag models in CFD

Modifications of drag model

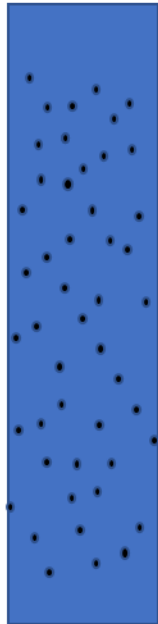
Basic hydrodynamic EE approach coupled with KTGF CFD model

a realistic way to bridge the gap

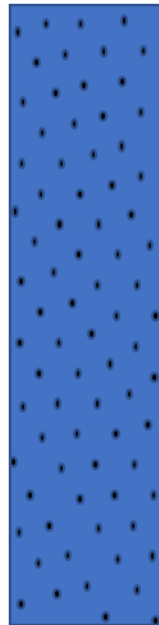
$$D_F(\varepsilon_s, Re, \phi) = D_{ideal}(\varepsilon_s, Re, \phi) \times f(\varepsilon_s, Re, \phi)$$

Properties of single particles

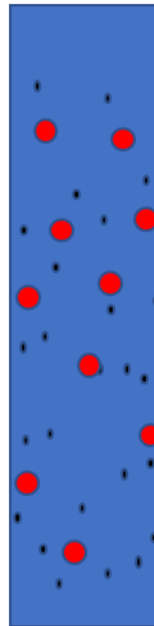
Validated CFD models



CFD model with drag modifications



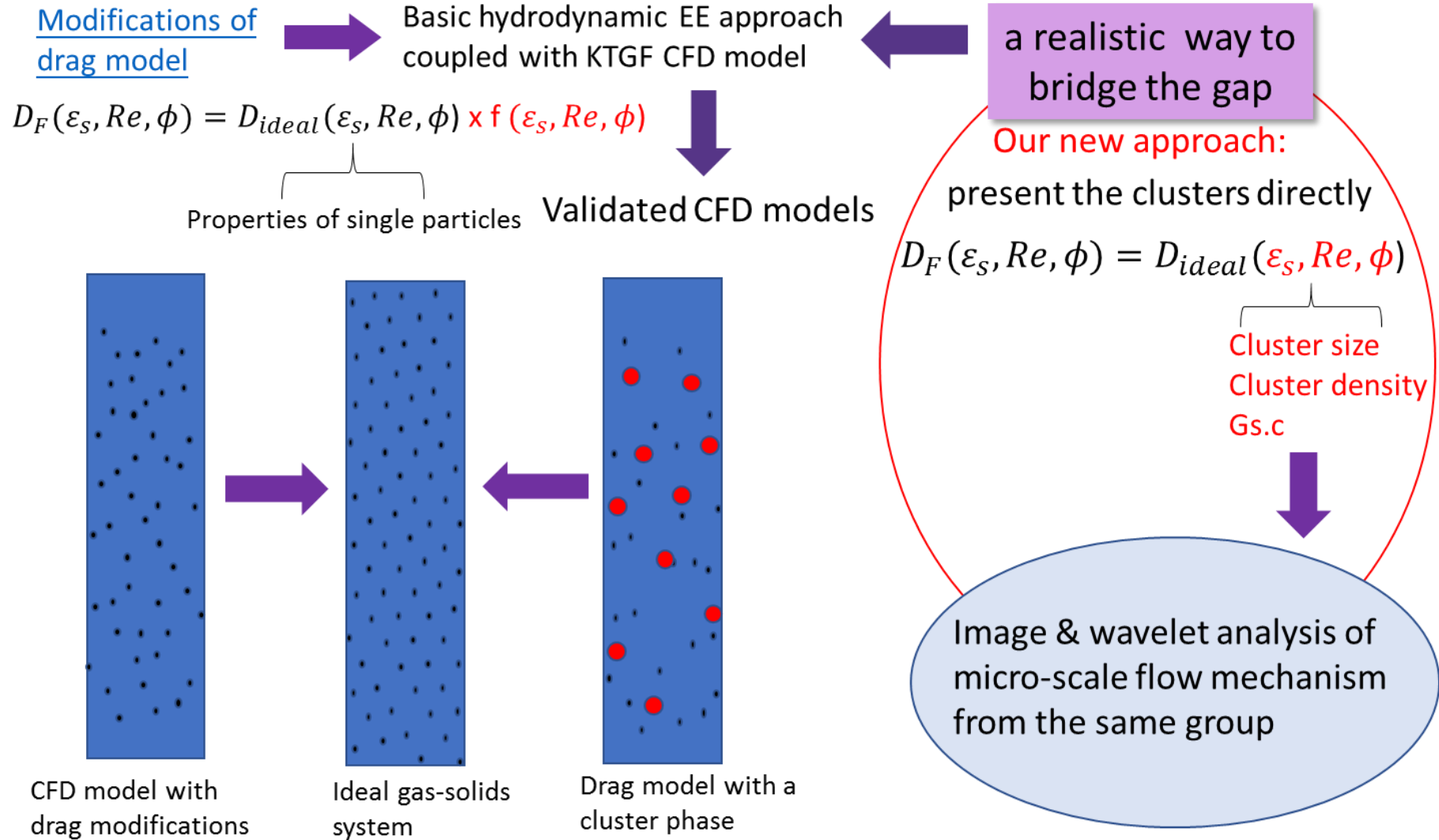
Ideal gas-solids system



Drag model with a cluster phase



# Drag models in CFD



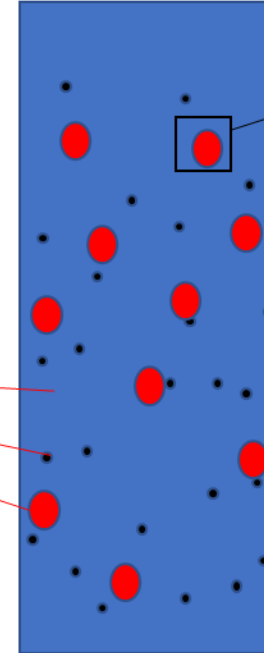


# Cluster-driven drag calculation:

**Assumption:** clusters are stable spherical clouds of single particles existing in the bed (core clusters)

In the gas-solids system:  
pure gas,  
FCC single particles,  
Clusters(FCC and gas)

CFB riser



Cluster properties:  
Volume fraction of  
cluster phase:  
 $P_{cl} = \varphi_{cl} / \varphi_s$   
Diameter:  $d_{cl}$   
Density:  $den_{cl}$

**Two classes:**

class 1(**FCC phase**): FCC single particles

class 2(**cluster phase**): cluster phase

# Gas-solids two-fluid model description

## The interactions between the gas and solids – drag calculation

### Drag model used as the benchmark:

- Syamlal and O'Brien drag model:
- $$K_{gs} = \frac{3\alpha_s\alpha_g\rho_g}{4v_{r,s}^2d_s} \left( 0.63 + \frac{4.8}{\sqrt{\frac{Re_s}{v_{r,s}}}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{Re_s}{v_{r,s}} \right) |\vec{v}_s - \vec{v}_g|$$
- Based on the measurements of the particle terminal velocity

### The proposed drag calculation:

- Cluster-driven drag calculation
- Include the clustering effects in the drag calculation,
- Cluster size ( $d_{cl}$ ), solid concentration in cluster ( $den_{cl}$ ), and the percentage of the total solids captured in the cluster phase ( $P_{cl}$ ) are collected from the averaged statistical data via image & wavelet analysis.

# Theory of multi-phase flows – CFD approaches

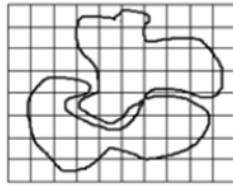
## Eulerian-Eulerian

Fluids

$$\rho \frac{DV}{DT} = \nabla \cdot \sigma + f$$

Solids

$$\rho \frac{DV}{DT} = \nabla \cdot \sigma + f$$



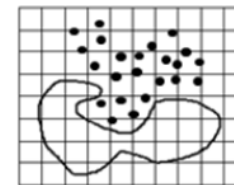
## Eulerian-Lagrangian

Fluids

$$\rho \frac{DV}{DT} = \nabla \cdot \sigma + f$$

Solids

$$F = ma$$



### **Eulerian-Eulerian (E-E) approach:**

- Both **gas and solids** phases: **interpenetrating continua**
- Costs less
- Implement the conception of kinetic theory of granular phase (KTGP)

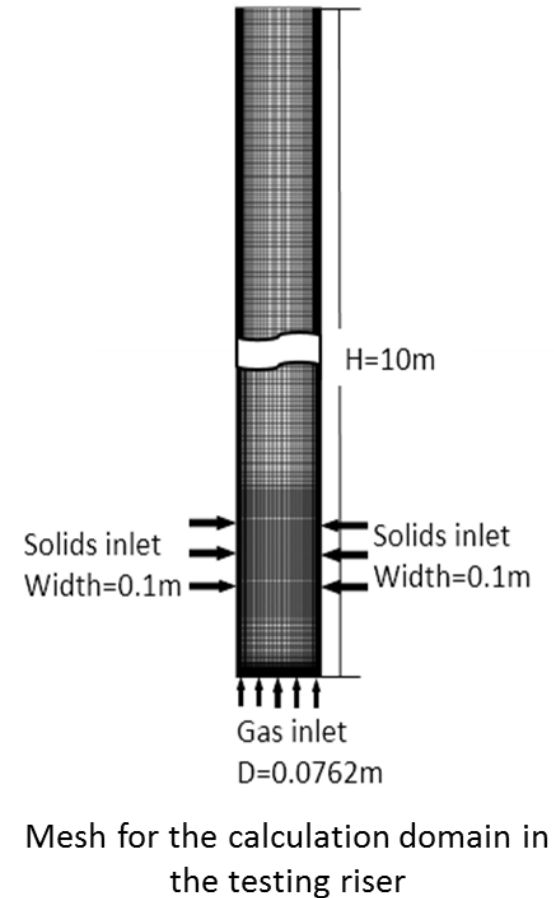
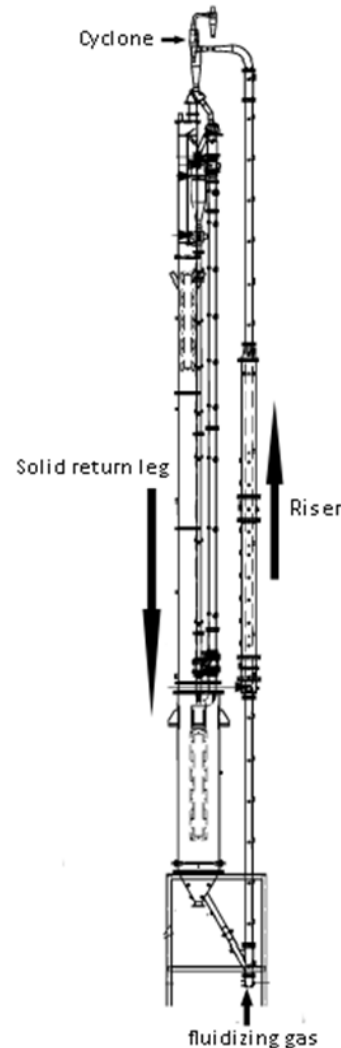
### **Eulerian-Lagrangian (E-L) approach:**

- Gas-phase:** **continuum** phase, **solids-phase:** **discrete** phase
- Trace the movements of every single particle
- High computational cost and time

# Configuration of the CFB riser

## Mesh and solver of the CFB riser

- A quad grid system with finer mesh near the wall and the inlet
- Second order discretization scheme for turbulent kinetic energy and turbulent dissipation rate and other convection terms
- QUICK for momentum equation
- Convergence criterion:  $5e-04$



Configuration of the CFB riser  
(Li 2010)

# Operating conditions

- The transient E-E approach coupled with the kinetic theory of granular flow

Summaries of operating conditions	
Gas density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.225
Particle density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1500
Particle diameter (μm)	67
Superficial gas velocity (m/s)	2-9
Particle circulation rate (kg/m <sup>2</sup> · s)	50-700
Particle-particle restitution coefficient	0.95
Specularity coefficient	0.0001

# Boundary conditions

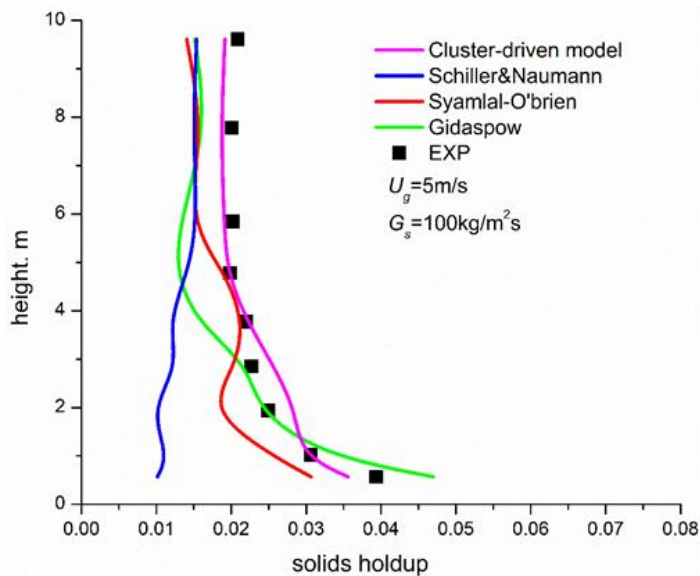
Inlet	
Gas phase	Jet profile of velocity inlet Gas velocity= $U_g / ((1-\epsilon_s) \times \text{opening ratio of the gas distributor})$ where $\epsilon_s$ is the solids volume fraction.
Solids phase	Uniform velocity inlet Solids velocity= $G_s / (\epsilon_s \times \rho_s)$
Wall	
Gas phase	No-slip velocity
Solids phase	Partial slip Specularity coefficient: 0.0001 Particle-wall restitution coefficient: 0.9
Outlet	
Gas phase	Outflow
Solids phase	Outflow

# Summary of CFD cases for simulation

Case #	$U_g$ , m/s	$G_s$ , kg/m <sup>2</sup> s	Drag calculation	Cluster diameter, $d_{cl}$ , m	Cluster solids holdup, $\varepsilon_{cl}$	Solids portion in clusters, p
1	5	100	Syamlal-O'brien model (OS)	NA	NA	NA
2	5	100	Schiller&Naumann model	NA	NA	NA
3	5	100	Gidaspow model	NA	NA	NA
4	5	100	Cluster driven model	0.006	0.052	0.5
5	5	300	Syamlal-O'brien model (OS)	NA	NA	NA
6	5	300	Cluster driven model	0.0052	0.185	0.5
7	7	300	Syamlal-O'brien model (OS)	NA	NA	NA
8	7	300	Cluster driven model	0.0051	0.1196	0.5

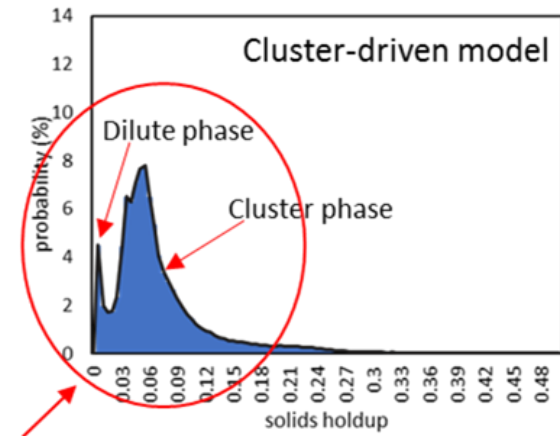


# Results of hydrodynamic simulations – model validation

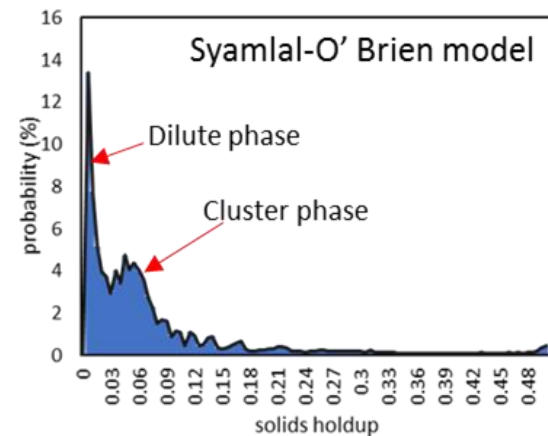


**Comparison of numerical results from axial solid holdup profiles by different drag models**

Good agreement with the experimental data  
As well as the commonly used drag calculator



Higher fraction of particles  
in forms of clusters

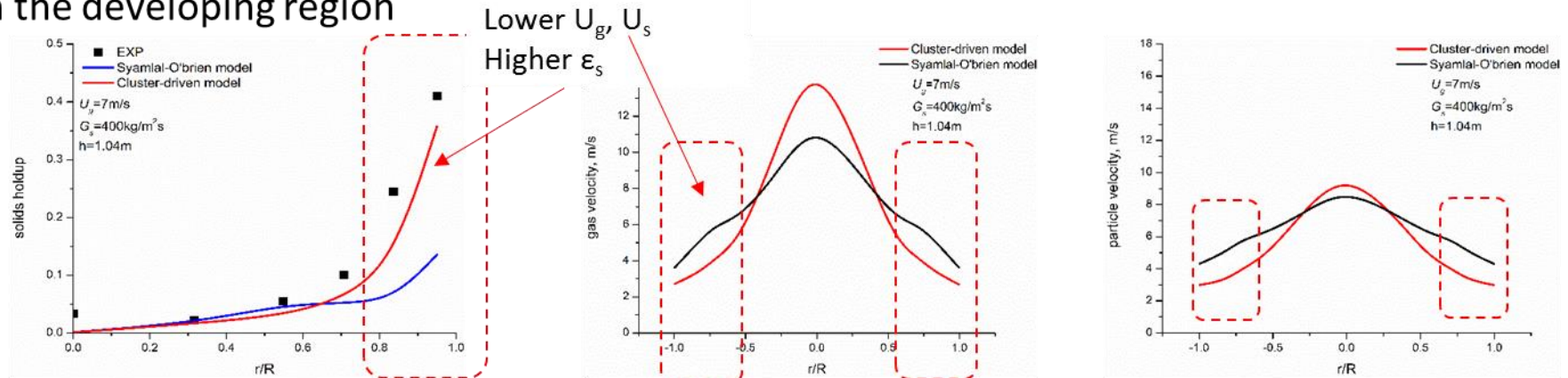


**Probability density distribution of overall solids holdup in the CFB riser**

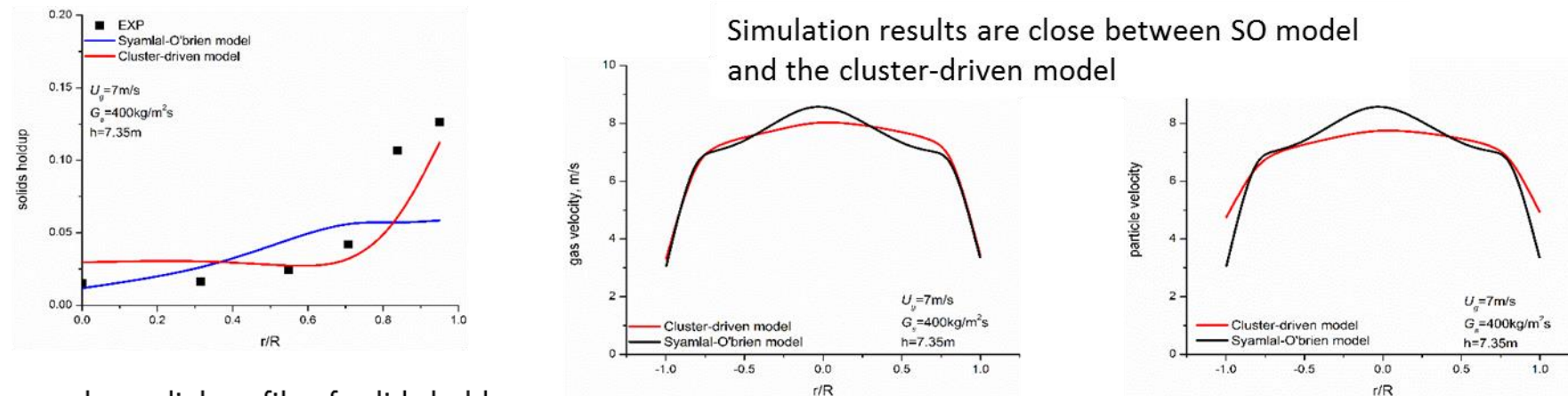
# Results of hydrodynamic simulations

## — Local flow structures in CFB riser

### In the developing region



### In the fully developed region

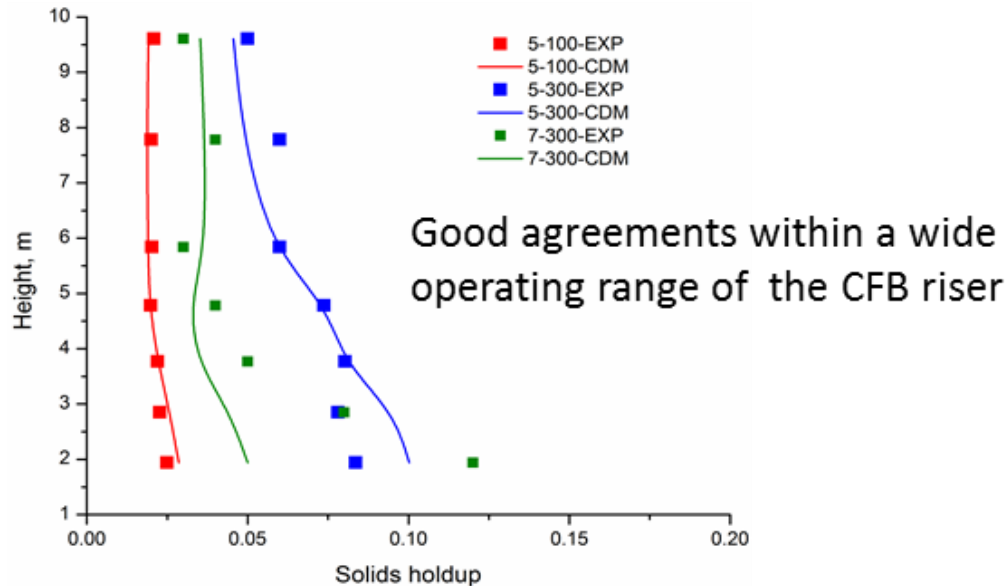


Core-annulus radial profile of solids holdup

Parabolic profiles of gas and solids velocities

# Results of hydrodynamic simulations

## — General flow structures in CFB riser

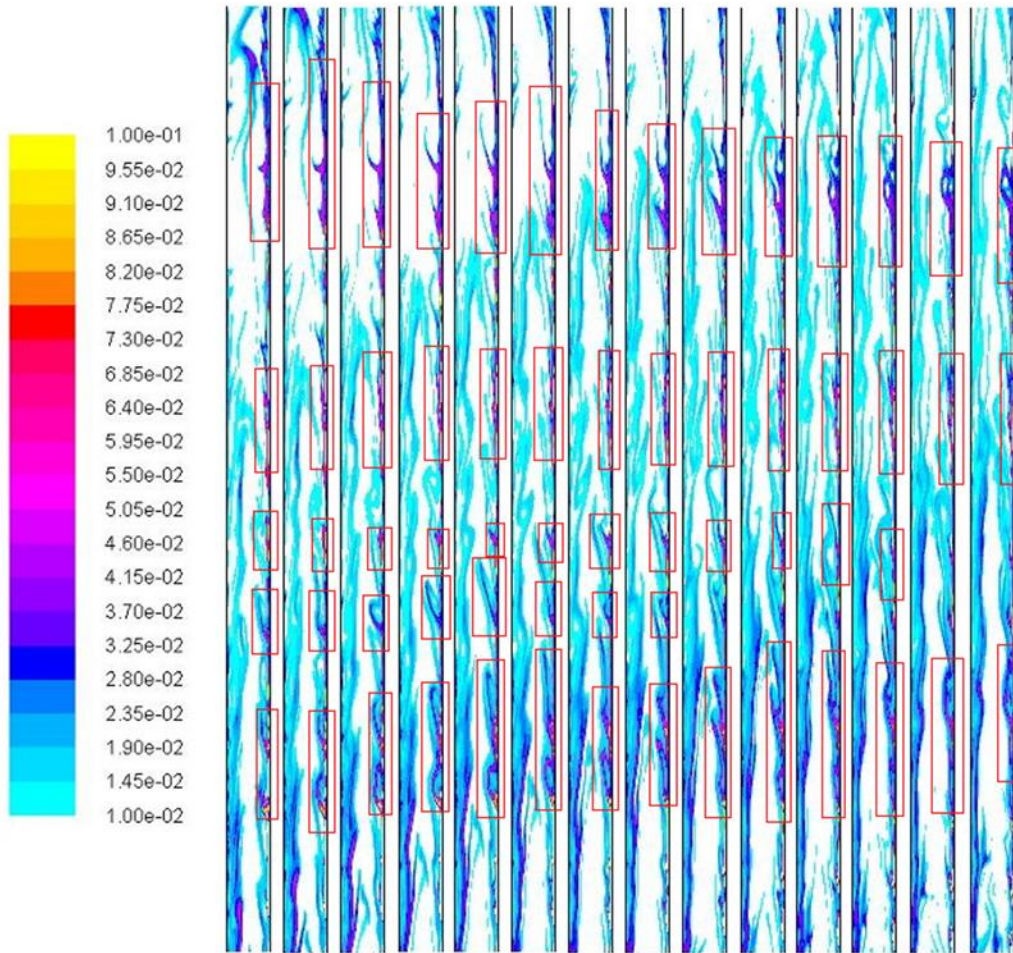


**Axial profiles of solids holdup under different operating conditions by the proposed drag calculation**

# The fidelity of modelling work

— Compared with images

## Clustering strands at wall



t=25.51s 25.52s 25.53s 25.54s 25.55s 25.56s 25.57s 25.58s 25.59s 25.60s 25.61s 25.62s 25.63s 25.64s

CFD results

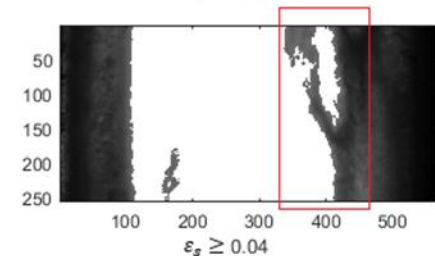
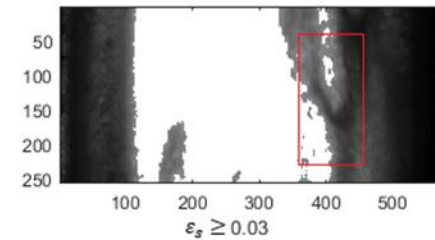
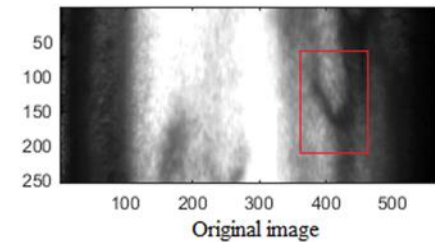


Image processing results

# Conclusions

- A cluster-driven drag calculation model is applied into the Eulerian-Eulerian two-fluid model to numerically study the gas-solids circulating fluidized bed riser.
- Statistical data of the particle clusters such as cluster diameter, average solid concentration of clusters, and the portion of solids in form of clusters are collected by image processing & wavelet analysis, and are employed into the drag calculation of clusters.
- Improvements are made by employing more realistic properties of clusters in the cluster-driven drag calculation, such as a good agreement of the axial solids holdup profile with the experimental data and a better agreement of local solids distribution especially in the wall region of the riser.



[illegible]